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# 2 Welcome to the Michel Thomas Method

Congratulations on purchasing the truly remarkable way to learn a language. With the Michel Thomas Method there's no reading, no writing and no homework. Just sit back, absorb, and soon you'll be speaking another language with confidence.

The Michel Thomas Method works by breaking a language down into its component parts and enabling you to reconstruct the language yourself – to form your own sentences and to say what you want, when you want. By learning the language in small steps, you can build it up yourself to produce ever more complicated sentences.

Perfected over 25 years, the all-audio Michel Thomas Method has been used by millions of people around the world.

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**To get started, simply insert CD I and press 'play'!**





# About Michel Thomas

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Michel Thomas (1914–2005) was a gifted linguist who mastered more than ten languages in his lifetime and became famous for teaching much of Hollywood's 'A' list how to speak a foreign language. Film stars such as Woody Allen, Emma Thompson and Barbra Streisand paid thousands of dollars each for face-to-face lessons.

Michel, a Polish Jew, developed his method after discovering the untapped potential of the human mind during his traumatic wartime experiences. The only way he survived this period of his life, which included being captured by the Gestapo, was by concentrating and placing his mind beyond the physical. Fascinated by this experience, he was determined that after the war he would devote himself to exploring further the power of the human mind, and so dedicated his life to education.

In 1947, he moved to Los Angeles and set up the Michel Thomas Language Centers, from where he taught languages for over fifty years in New York, Beverly Hills and London.

Michel Thomas died at his home in New York City on Saturday 8th January 2005. He was 90 years old.







# Recording 1

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## **Vamos a comenzar / vamos a empezar**

comenzamos / empezamos  
empecemos  
Me gusta ...  
Me gusta estar aquí

*We are going to start*

*we're going to start  
let's start  
I like ...  
I like to be here*

## **Quiero hacerlo pero ...**

**lo haré, lo hará** / *will do it, he/she/you will do it*

**no lo haré**, no voy a hacerlo  
hoy porque ...  
... estoy muy ocupado  
... estoy demasiado ocupado ...  
... para hacerlo

*I want to do it but ...*

*I won't do it, I won't do it  
today because  
... I'm very busy  
... I'm too busy  
... to do it*

## **Tengo ganas de ...**

Tengo ganas de hacerlo  
No tengo ganas de ir allí  
No tengo ganas de quedarme aquí  
Tengo ganas de salir

*I feel like ...  
I feel like doing it  
I don't feel like going there  
I don't feel like staying here  
I feel like going out*

## **Me parece que ...**

creo que ..., pienso que ...  
Me parece que ella no tiene  
ganas de ir allí

*It seems to me that ..., I think that ...  
I believe that ..., I think that ...  
It seems to me that she doesn't  
feel like going there*

## **Estoy de acuerdo con usted**

De acuerdo  
No estoy de acuerdo con él  
¿Cuál es su opinión?  
¿Cuál es tu opinión?  
¿Qué piensa?  
¿Qué piensas, Roberto?  
¿Qué piensan ustedes?

*I agree with you  
OK, agreed  
I don't agree with him  
What is your opinion?  
What is your opinion?  
What do you think?*

## **Me interesa**

Me interesa mucho / muchísimo  
Desafortunadamente no me interesa

*It interests me  
It interests me a lot / very much  
Unfortunately it doesn't interest me*





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### Creo que ...

Creo que él va a estar allí ...  
 ... esta tarde  
 Es demasiado tarde para hacerlo

*I think that ...  
 I think that he will be there ...  
 ... this afternoon  
 It's too late to do it*

**tarde** means *late* as well as *afternoon*; **es tarde** is *it is late*

Creo que él va a estar aquí esta  
 noche  
 Veremos, vamos a ver

*I think that he is going to be here  
 tonight  
 We will see*

### No será posible ...

... hacerlo así  
 No lo creo

*It won't be possible ...  
 ... to do it like this, in this way  
 I don't think so, I don't believe it*

**Seguro**, seguramente

*sure, surely*

### Claro

*Of course*

Naturalmente

*Naturally*

Claro que estoy seguro

*Of course I'm sure*

### Mira / Mire ...

... está sobre la mesa  
 ¿Puede ponerlo, podría ponerlo ...  
 ... debajo de la mesa?

*Look ...  
 ... it's on the table  
 Will I / Can you put it, could you put it ...  
 ... under the table?*

### Es necesario ...

*It is necessary ...*

### Tenemos que ...

*We have to ...*

### Hay que ...

*One must ...*

... ir allí

*... to go there*

No es necesario / No  
 hay que comprarlo ...

*It is not necessary to buy it ...*

... porque es muy caro

*... because it is very expensive*

### Necesito, lo necesito

*I need, I need it*

No lo necesito ahora

*I don't need it now*

Es todo lo que necesito

*It is all I need*

Note the use of **lo que** in the middle of the sentence (*lit. all what I need*)

Esto / Eso es todo lo que necesito

*This / That is all I need*

Es todo lo que quiero

*It is all I want*

¿Esto es todo lo que quiere?

*Is this all you want?*

Quiero algo más

*I want something else*







¿Necesita algo más?

No gracias, esto es todo

**¿Puede mostrarme ...?**

Sí, voy a mostrarle, le muestro

*Do you need anything else?*

*No thank you, that's all*

*Will you / Can you show me?*

*Yes, I'll show you*

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PRESENT TENSE USED FOR FUTURE

**mostrar** means *to show*

**muestro** means *I show, I'll show*; **le muestro**, *I'll show you*

The future is often expressed by the present tense in Spanish

**¿Puede / podría decirme ...**

... a qué hora va a estar listo?

... a qué hora estará listo?

*Will you / Can you / Could you tell me ...*

*... what time it is going to be ready?*

*... what time it will be ready?*

**Voy a** informarme

Necesito cierta información

Tengo que informarme

Voy a decirle mañana, le diré mañana

*I will find out*

*(lit. inform myself)*

*I need certain information*

*I have to find out*

*I will tell you tomorrow*

**poder** means *to be able*; **podré** *I will be able*

**No voy a poder**, no podré ...

... hacerlo

No podrá venir con nosotros

No va a poder venir con nosotros

*I will not be able ...*

*... to do it*

*He will not be able to come with us*

*He isn't going to be able to come with us*

**buscar** means *to look for*

**Lo busco**, lo estoy buscando ...

**... pero no puedo encontrarlo**

*I am looking for it ...*

*... but I can't find it*

**¿Tiene algo para mí?**

**No, no tengo nada**

Ya no tengo más

Hay un mensaje para usted

Hay unos mensajes para usted

¿Hay mensajes para mí?

¿Hay algún mensaje para mí?

Sí, hay algunos

*Do you have something for me?*

*No, I don't have anything,  
I have nothing*

*I don't have it any longer, any more*

*There is a message for you*

*There are some messages for you*

*Are there messages for me?*

*Is there any message for me?*

*Yes, there are some*



**¿Cuánto es?**

¿Cuánto es esto / eso?  
 ¿Cuánto cuesta?  
 ¿Cuál es el precio?  
 ¿Cuánto vale?  
 No vale mucho  
 ¿Cuánto le debo?

**debo** means *I must, I'm supposed to, I should*  
**¿Qué debo hacer?** is *What should I do?*  
**Debo salir** is *I must go out*

**Está muy bien**

Está bien así

Me parece que / creo que ...  
 ... va a decidir / decidirá hacerlo

**Voy a hacerlo ...**

... inmediatamente / ahora mismo  
 ... en seguida

**Quiero hacerlo****Me gustaría hacerlo**

**me gusta** means *I like, me gustaría I would like*

Me gustaría saber ...  
 ... a qué hora ...  
 ... él puede / podrá / podría ...  
 ... estar aquí

**olvidar** means *to forget*

**No olvidaré / no voy a olvidar ...**

... decirle / darle

**... dárselo**

Voy a dárselo a usted  
 Tengo ganas de hacerlo ...  
 ... pero no sé si puedo hacerlo ahora

**No vale la pena ...****... ir allí**

*How much is it?*  
*How much is this / that?*  
*How much does it cost?*  
*What is the price?*  
*How much is it worth?*  
*It's not worth much*  
*How much do I owe you?*

*It's fine / all right*  
*It's OK like this*

*I think that ...*  
*... he will decide to do it*

*I'm going to do it ...*  
*... immediately / right now*  
*... right away*

*I want to do it*  
*I would like to do it*

*I would like to know ...*  
*... at what time ...*  
*... he can / will be able to / could ...*  
*... be here*

*I will not forget ...*  
*... to tell / to give you / him / her / them*  
*... to give it to you / him / her / them*

*I'm going to give it to you*  
*I feel like doing it ...*  
*... but I don't know if I can do it now*

*It's not worth the trouble ...*  
*... to go there / going there*



Podemos ir allí si quiere / si quieres  
 ¿Quiere / quieres venir conmigo?  
 Me gustaría ir con usted / contigo  
 ¿Le gustaría / Te gustaría venir  
 conmigo?

*We can go there if you want  
 Do you want to come with me?  
 I'd like to go with you  
 Would you like to come  
 with me?*

Sí, claro que sí / ¿cómo no?  
 Me gustaría mucho  
 Con mucho gusto  
 Gracias por su gentileza  
 De acuerdo / Vale  
 Esto / Eso me gusta  
 Es una buena idea  
 Tiene razón  
 Tiene toda la razón  
 Tiene razón y estoy de acuerdo  
 con usted

*Yes, of course / why not?  
 I'd like to very much  
 With much pleasure  
 That's nice of you  
 Agreed, OK  
 This / That pleases me, I like it  
 It's a good idea  
 You are right  
 You are quite right  
 You are right and I agree  
 with you*

**Me gusta quedarme aquí ...**

... porque estoy cansado  
 Me gusta descansar

*I like to stay / staying here ...  
 ... because I'm tired  
 I like to rest*

**Voy a descansar ...**

... un poco / un rato  
 ... porque estoy muy cansado

*I'm going to rest ...  
 ... for a little / for a while  
 ... because I'm very tired*

¿Vale la pena ir a verlo esta noche?  
 No, no vale la pena

*Is it worth going to see it tonight?  
 No, it's not worth it*

**¡Es increíble!**

No lo creo  
 Es increíble lo que me dice  
 Es magnífico / extraordinario  
 Es excelente  
 Esto es muy interesante

*It's incredible!  
 I don't believe it  
 It's incredible what you're telling me  
 It's great / magnificent / extraordinary  
 It's excellent  
 This is very interesting*

Me interesa mucho verlo  
 Estoy muy interesado  
 Me interesa mucho ir a verlo  
 Ella es encantadora  
 Me gusta mucho ir allí con usted

*It interests me a lot to see it  
 I am very interested  
 I'm very interested to go and see it  
 She is very charming / lovely / nice  
 I like very much to go there with you*





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**Lo siento****Siento decirle ...**

... que no puedo ir a verlo  
 ... con usted / contigo esta noche  
 Siento decirle ...  
 ... que no podría ir a verlo

... porque estoy muy ocupado  
 ... porque estaré, voy a estar  
 muy ocupado

Tengo que hacerlo

**Tendría que hacerlo**

Tiene que hacerlo  
 Tendría que hacerlo  
 Tendríamos que ir allí  
 Tendría que decirme  
 Debería hacerlo  
 Debería esperarme

Me gusta mucho / Me encanta viajar

**de vacaciones** means *on holiday*

Creo que me voy de vacaciones ...  
 ... primero a España  
 ... y luego, más tarde a Italia  
 Me gustaría ...  
 ... verle / ir a verle

**Creo que voy a salir** pronto ...

... porque no puedo esperar  
 ¿Cuándo cree que va a salir?

**Pienso salir** pronto

¿Cuándo piensa salir?

**Espero salir** pronto

¿Cuánto tiempo piensa ...  
 ... quedarse en Madrid?  
 Pienso quedarme una semana  
 en España

*I'm sorry*  
*I'm sorry to tell you ...*  
*... that I can't go to see it*  
*... with you tonight*  
*I'm sorry to tell you ...*  
*... that I wouldn't be able to go*  
*and see it*  
*... because I'm very busy*  
*... I shall be / I'm going to be*  
*very busy*

*I have to do it*  
*I would have to do it*

*He has to do it*  
*He would have to do it*  
*We would have to go there*  
*You should tell me*  
*I should do it*  
*You should wait for me*

*I like very much to travel*

*I think I'm going on holiday ...*  
*... first to Spain*  
*... and then, later to Italy*  
*I would like ...*  
*... to see him / to go and see him*  
*I think I'm going to leave soon ...*  
*... because I can't wait*  
*When do you think you will leave?*  
*I think I'll leave soon*  
*When do you think you'll leave?*  
*I hope to leave soon*  
*How long do you think ...*  
*... you'll stay in Madrid?*  
*I think I'll stay a week in Spain*





Tengo ganas de ...  
 ... ir al cine esta noche  
 ... para ver una película  
 una película interesante  
 Ella no tiene ganas de ir allí  
 ... esta noche, quizás mañana

Pienso salir / irme ...  
 ... la semana que viene  
 ... el mes que viene  
 ... o en dos semanas

Quiero tenerlo  
 Voy a comprarlo  
**No voy a comprarlo** porque ...  
 ... es demasiado caro  
 ... es muy caro  
**No pienso** comprarlo

**pensar** to think is used for planning

**esperar** to hope also means to expect

**No tengo la intención de** comprarlo *I don't intend to buy it*

PRONUNCIATION OF LETTER 'C'

The letter **c** followed by **i** or **e** is pronounced 'th' in Castilian Spanish but 's' in other parts of the Spanish-speaking world. But before **a**, **o**, **u** it is always 'k'.

You'll hear '**intenti<sup>o</sup>n**' in Castilian Spanish, but '**intensi<sup>o</sup>n**' in many other parts of Spain and in Latin America. Another example: '**Barthelona**' and '**Barselona**'.

No tengo la intención de hacerlo *I don't intend to do it*

ENGLISH WORDS ENDING IN '-TION'

Lots of words ending in **-tion** in English end in **-ción** in Spanish.

Other examples: **condición**, **reservación**, **confirmación**, etc.

Pienso ir allí con usted  
 Espero ir allí con usted  
 Voy a tomarlo  
 Va a estar listo pronto

*I feel like ...*  
 ...going to the cinema tonight  
 ... (in order) to see a film / a picture / a movie  
 an interesting film / picture / movie  
 She doesn't feel like going there ...  
 ... tonight, perhaps tomorrow

*I think I'll leave / go away ...*  
 ... next week  
 ... next month  
 ... or in two weeks

*I want to have it*  
*I'm going to buy it*  
*I'm not going to buy it because ...*  
 ... it's too expensive  
 ... it's very expensive  
*I don't plan to buy it*





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**¿A qué hora ...**

... va a estar aquí?

**No tengo tiempo de hacerlo**

No tiene tiempo de hacerlo

No tenemos tiempo de hacerlo

¿Cuánto tiempo tiene?

**No sé cuándo ...**

... va a estar / estará listo

**Creo que ...**

... va a estar / estará listo pronto

*At what time ...**... are you going to be here?**I don't have time to do it**He doesn't have time to do it**We don't have time to do it**How much time do you have?**I don't know when ...**... it will be ready**I think ...**... it will be ready soon*

**abrir** means to *open*; **abro** is *I open, I'm opening*  
**cerrar** means to *close*; **cierro** is *I close, I'm closing*

¿Debo abrir la ventana?

*Should I open the window?***¿Abro la ventana?***Shall I open the window?*

Cierro la puerta

*I'm closing the door***¿Cierro la puerta?***Shall I close the door?*

## ASKING QUESTIONS

All you have to do to change a statement (*I'm closing the door*) into a question (*Shall I close the door?*) is to make it sound like a question, with the right inflexion in your voice. The order of the words doesn't change.

In written Spanish you put a question mark **¿** at the beginning as well as **?** at the end of the question.

Le espero

*I'm waiting for you***¿Le espero?***Shall I wait for you?***¿Le acompaño?***Shall I accompany you?***¿Voy / vengo con usted?***Shall I go / come with you?*

Le llamo más tarde / mañana

*I'll call you later / tomorrow***¿Le llamo más tarde?***Shall I call you later?*

Salimos

*We are leaving***¿Salimos?***Shall we leave?*

Vamos a hacerlo

*We are going to do it***¿Qué vamos a hacer?***What shall we do?*

Yo sé que no va a poder hacerlo

*I know he won't be able to do it*

Tengo que ir a verlo

*I have to go and see it*

Voy a ir a verlo

*I am going to see it*

**Iba a verlo**

Iba a hacerlo

No iba a hacerlo

**No iba a decirle ...**

... que iba a hacerlo para usted

Iba a comprarlo

No iba a encontrarlo

Él iba a estar aquí esta mañana

No iba a esperar

No iba a esperarle

**Sé, lo sé, no lo sé**

No sé dónde está

No puedo encontrarlo

¿Puede decirme dónde está?

¿Podría decirme?

Tengo que saberlo

*He was going to see it**I was going to do it**He wasn't going to do it**I wasn't going to tell you ...**... that I was going to do it for you**I was going to buy it**I wasn't going to find it**He was going to be here  
this afternoon**I wasn't going to wait**I wasn't going to wait for you**I know, I know it, I don't know it**I don't know where it is**I can't find it**Can you tell me where it is?**Could you / would you be able  
to tell me?**I have to know (it)***saber** means *to know***sé** means *I know*; **sabe**, *he/she knows, you know*; **sabes** *you know* (informal);**saben** *you know, they know***¿Qué sabe?**

¿Por qué no lo sabes?

**Nadie sabe** dónde está

Nadie puede encontrarlo

*What do you know?**Why don't you know (it)?  
(to a friend)**Nobody knows where it is**Nobody can find it***sabía** means *I knew, he/she knew, you knew*; **sabías** *is you knew* (informal);**sabían** *you knew, they knew***Lo sabía****No lo sabía**

No sabía que usted iba a estar aquí

No iba a decirle ...

... que iba a comprarlo para usted

*I knew (it)**I didn't know (it)**I didn't know you were going  
to be here**I wasn't going to tell you ...**... that I was going to buy it for you***llegar** means *to arrive*



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No sabía que ...  
 ... iba a llegar hoy  
 Yo sabía que todo iba a estar listo

Sé que nunca ...  
 ... voy a poder / podré hacerlo así

*I didn't know ...  
 ... you were going to arrive today  
 I knew everything was going  
 to be ready  
 I know that I never ...  
 ... will be able to do it that way*

## Recording 2

### ¿Qué hay?

*What is there?*

**¿Qué hay?** can also mean *What's up?, What's the matter?,  
 What's going on?*

¿Qué hay para comer?  
 ¿Qué hay para beber?

*What is there to eat?  
 What is there to drink?*

**ofrecer** means *to offer*

### ¿Puedo ofrecerle algo ...

*Can I offer you something ...*

... para beber?

*... to drink?*

**Sí, pero primero** tengo que ...

*Yes, but first I have to ...*

... hacer una llamada telefónica

*... make a phone call*

... llamar por teléfono

*... telephone*

**Y después,** voy a salir

*And afterwards I'm going to leave*

PRONUNCIATION OF THE LETTER 'Z'

The letter **z** is always 'th' in Castilian and 's' elsewhere

### la primera vez

*the first time*

la segunda vez

*the second time*

la tercera vez

*the third time*

la próxima vez

*the next time*

### dos veces

*two times, twice*

muchas veces

*many times*

Voy a hacerlo muchas veces

*I'm going to do it many times*

No tengo ganas de hacerlo

*I don't feel like doing it*

No tengo ganas de ir allí solo

*I don't feel like going there alone*

Voy a hacerlo

*I'm going to do it*







Iba a hacerlo  
No sabía que iba a estar aquí

*I was going to do it  
I didn't know you were going  
to be here*

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If you need clarifiers, put them in!  
Add **yo, tú, él / ella, usted** where necessary

**Yo** no sabía que **usted** iba  
a estar aquí

*I didn't know you were going  
to be here*

**Él** no sabía que **ella** iba a  
estar aquí

*He didn't know she was going  
to be here*

No sabía que iba a salir ...

*I didn't know you were going  
to leave ...*

... esta tarde

*... this afternoon*

Vamos a empezar ...

*We are going to start ...*

... pronto / en seguida

*... soon / right away*

... inmediatamente

*... immediately*

Voy a esperar

*I'm going to wait*

Iba a esperar

*He was going to wait*

No iba a esperar

*He wasn't going to wait*

No sabía ...

*I didn't know ...*

... que iba a estar aquí ...

*... that you were going to be here ...*

... hoy / esta mañana

*... today / this morning*

No sabía ...

*I didn't know*

... que iban a estar aquí

*... that you were (all) going to be here*

**Generalmente ...**

*Generally / usually ...*

ENGLISH WORDS ENDING IN '-LY'

The ending *-ly* in English is usually **-mente** in Spanish.  
*specially* is **especialmente**

... no lo hago así

*... I don't do it that way*

SPECIAL = ESPECIAL

Words beginning *sp-*, *st-* or *sc-* in English usually start **esp-**, **est-** or **esc-** in Spanish:  
*Spain* is **España**; *student* **estudiante**; *school* **escuela**.

ENGLISH WORDS ENDING '-TY'

Words ending in *-ty* usually end in **-dad** or **-dad** in Spanish:  
**especialidad**; **libertad**; **oportunidad**; **cualidad**



Generalmente no me gusta hacerlo

Generalmente no voy allí

### A menudo

### Frecuentemente

**Casi nunca** voy allí

Generally I don't like doing it

Generally I don't go there

Often

Frequently

I almost never go there

**acabar** means *to finish*

**acabo de + infinitive** (*to have just ...*) is an easy way of expressing the past tense

### Acabo de ...

Acabo de verlo

Acaba de salir

### Acabo de llegar ...

### ... hace dos días

Acaba de llamarme ...

... hace diez minutos

Ella acaba de salir / de irse

Acabo de decirle

Acabo de comprarlo

Acabo de hablar con él

Acaba de decirme

I have just ...

I have just seen it

He has just left

I have just arrived ...

... two days ago

He has just called me ...

... ten minutes ago

She has just gone out / left

I have just told you

I have just bought it

I have just spoken to him

He has just told me

**volver** means *to come back, return*

### Voy a volver / Volveré ...

... en seguida / pronto

### Va a volver / Volverá ...

... muy pronto / más tarde

Acaba de salir hace diez minutos ...

... y va a volver / volverá más tarde

No tengo ganas de salir ahora ...

... porque estoy muy

cansado / cansada

I'll come back ...

... right away / soon

She will come back ...

... very soon / later

She has just left ten minutes ago ...

... and she'll come back later

I don't feel like going out now ...

... because I'm very tired

**preferir** means *to prefer*; **prefiero** I would rather ...

### Prefiero ...

### ... quedarme aquí

Acabo de comprar un libro ...

... que encuentro muy interesante

I would rather / I would prefer to ...

... stay here

I have just bought a book ...

... that I find very interesting



Lo encuentro muy interesante  
Creo que es muy interesante

*I find it very interesting  
I think it is very interesting*

**Hace diez minutos que le espero**

*I have been waiting ten minutes  
for you*

To say how long you have been waiting, doing something, working etc. use **hace** (lit. it makes) + **que** + the present tense.

**¿Cuánto tiempo hace que ...  
... está aquí** en Madrid?

*How long ...  
... have you been here in Madrid?*

**Quisiera** / Me gustaría / Quiero  
... hablar con él  
... verlo

*I would like ...  
... to talk to him  
... to see it*

No está allí

*He isn't in / isn't there*

¿A qué hora va a estar / estará aquí?

*What time will he be here?*

**¿Sabe a qué hora ...  
... va a llegar / llegará / llega?**

*Do you know what time ...  
... he will arrive?*

... va a volver / volverá / vuelve?

*... he will come back / return?*

Puede / Podría decirme ...

*Can / Could you tell me ...*

... a qué hora estará / va a estar aquí?

*... what time he will be here?*

**irse** means *to leave, to go away*  
**dejar** means *to leave (behind) and also to let (someone do something)*

dejar la llave

*to leave the key*

dejar un mensaje

*to leave a message*

¿Puede dejarme trabajar?

*Can you let me work?*

**Me gustaría dejar un mensaje**

*I'd like to leave a message*

¿Puedo dejar un mensaje?

*Can I leave a message?*

¿Puedo dejarle un mensaje?

*Can I leave you a message?*

¿Puede / Podría decirme ...

*Can / Could you tell me ...?*

**¿Puede / Podría decirle ...  
... que le llamaré más tarde?**

*Can / Could you tell him ...  
... that I'll call him later?*

... que le llamaré mañana?

*... that I'll call him tomorrow?*

... que le llamaré la semana que  
viene?

*... that I'll call him next week?*

**la próxima vez**

*next time*





## THREE WORDS FOR 'TIME'

**vez** has the sense of one of a number of occasions  
**tiempo** is the general word for a period or passing of time  
**hora** is the point of time marked on a clock

una vez, dos veces

tres, cuatro, cinco veces

seis, siete, ocho veces

nueve, diez veces

once, doce, trece veces

catorce, quince veces

la primera vez

**Es la última vez**

once, twice

three, four, five times

six, seven, eight times

nine, ten times

eleven, twelve, thirteen times

fourteen, fifteen times

the first time

It's the last time

**expresar** means *to express*, **expresarse** *to express oneself*

No sé cómo expresar lo  
exactamente ...

*I don't know how to express it  
exactly ...*

**exacto** (*exact*) becomes **exactamente** (*exactly*).

The **o** changes to **a** before adding **-mente**

Another example: **seguro** becomes **seguramente**

No sé cómo decirlo exactamente ...

... en español

¿Cómo lo dice en español?

**¿Cómo se dice en español?**

*I don't know how to say it exactly ...*

*... in Spanish*

*How do you say it in Spanish?*

*How does one say it in Spanish?*

## SPECIAL USE OF 'SE'

**Se** is frequently used to mean *one* or *you*, or to say something is done

**Se habla español aquí**

*One speaks Spanish here*

*Spanish is spoken here*

**escribir** means *to write*

le escribo

Me escribe a menudo

... frecuentemente

**¿Cómo se escribe?**

¿Puede escribirlo?

Escríbalo, por favor

*I write to you*

*He writes to me often*

*... frequently*

*How do you write it / spell it?*

*Can you write it down?*

*Write it down, please*



**Se puede ...**

¿Se puede entrar aquí?  
 ¿Se puede hacerlo?  
 ¿Se puede pasar?  
 ¿Dónde se puede encontrarlo?

*One can / It is possible / allowed ...*

*Can one come in?  
 Can one do it?  
 Can one pass / come in?  
 Where can one find it?*

**¿Está seguro de esto?**

absolutamente / totalmente

**Sí, estoy absolutamente seguro**

*Are you sure about this?*

*absolutely / totally  
 Yes, I'm absolutely sure*

Note that you say **seguro** if you are a man, **segura** if you are a woman

Lo sé porque ...

*I know because ...*

... acabo de leerlo ...

*... I've just read it ...*

... en el periódico

*... in the newspaper*

... en el periódico de hoy

*... in today's newspaper*

¿Puede / Podría decirme dónde ...

*Can / Could you tell me where ...*

... puedo encontrar un buen restaurante?

*... I can find a good restaurant?*

no muy lejos de aquí

*not very far from here*

Está muy lejos

*It's very far, a long way*

**¿Está lejos de aquí?**

*Is it far from here?*

**No, no está lejos de aquí**

*No, it's not far from here*

**Está cerca de aquí**

*It's near here*

Puede ir a pie

*You can walk*

¿Puedo ir a pie?

*Can I walk?*

Se puede ir a pie

*One can walk*

Necesito un coche

*I need a car*

In Spain a car is **un coche**, but in Mexico it's **un carro**

... para ir al restaurante

*... to go to the restaurant*

To rent a car in Spain is **alquilar un coche** but in Mexico it's **rentar un carro**

Quisiera alquilar un coche

*I'd like to hire a car*

¿Dónde puedo alquilar un coche?

*Where can I hire a car?*

**¿Cuánto es por día?**

*How much is it per day?*

**¿Cuánto cuesta ...**

*How much does it cost ...*

... por semana?

*... per week?*

... por mes?

*... per month?*



¿dónde? asks where someone or something is; ¿a dónde? asks where someone is going  
¿Dónde está? but ¿A dónde va?

**¿Puede / Podría decirme ...**

**... a dónde ir ...**

... para encontrar lo que quiero?

... para encontrar lo que busco?

*Can you / Could you tell me ...*

*... where to go ...*

*... to find what I want?*

*... to find what I'm looking for?*

**Me gustaría / Quisiera saber ...**

**... lo que tengo que hacer ...**

... para obtener lo que quiero

... para obtener lo que busco

*I would like to know ...*

*... what I have to do ...*

*... to get what I want*

*... to get what I'm looking for*

hay que means *one has to*

**Quiero saber ...**

**... lo que hay que hacer ...**

... para obtenerlo

*I want to know ...*

*... what one has to do ...*

*... in order to obtain it*

**Me gustaría saber ...**

**... a dónde hay que ir ...**

... para obtenerlo / encontrarlo

... para comprarlo

*I would like to know ...*

*... where one has to go ...*

*... to have it / to find it*

*... to buy it*

¿Puede darme una explicación?

*Can you give me an explanation?*

**explicar** means *to explain*; **una explicación** is *an explanation*

This is an exception to the rule that most English words ending in *-ation* are identical in Spanish, with the ending **-ación**.

However; remember that most do obey this rule: **información, preparación, reservación**, etc. It's also worth noting that the verbs associated with these nouns are all **-ar** verbs :

**informar, preparar, reservar**

¿Puede explicarme dónde está?

Gracias

**Le agradezco mucho**

Realmente le agradezco mucho

*Can you tell me where it is?*

*Thank you*

*I thank you very much*

*I really do thank you very much*

**Estoy enojado / enojada**

Estoy muy enojado / enojada

*I'm angry / annoyed*

*I'm very angry / annoyed*

In Spain you'll often hear: **Estoy enfadado / enfadada**, which also means *I'm annoyed, angry*



Estoy furioso / furiosa

**Me preocupa**

Me preocupa mucho

Me preocupa ver esto

No me preocupa

**Estoy aburrido / aburrida**

Estoy muy aburrido

¿Está aburrido?

No me gusta estar aburrido

Creo que ... / Me parece que ...

... todo está bien

Voy a verlo una vez

Voy a ir a verlo

No lo veo a menudo

**Por lo menos ...**

**menos** means *less*; **más o menos** means *more or less*

... lo veré / voy a verlo una vez

... I'll see it once

**temprano** means *early*

¿Puede / puedes / pueden venir ...

Can you come ...

... un poco más temprano?

... a little earlier?

**lleno** means *full*; **llenar** is to *fill up*

Está muy lleno

It's very full

¿Puede llenarlo?

Can you fill it up?

**limpio** is *clean*; **sucio** is *dirty*

No está muy limpio

It's not very clean

Está sucio

It's dirty

Es perfecto

It's perfect

Perfectamente

Perfectly

**calor** is *heat*; **frío** is *cold*

For hot weather you say **hace calor** (*lit. it makes heat*)

But a hot person says **tengo calor** (*lit. I have heat*)





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No me gusta el calor

**Hace calor / frío hoy****Tengo calor / frío**

¿Tiene frío?

No puedo soportar el calor

*I don't like the heat**It's hot / cold (weather)**I'm hot / cold**Are you cold?**I can't stand the heat***hambre** is *hunger*, **sed** is *thirst***Tengo hambre**

Tengo que comer algo ...

... porque tengo hambre

**Tengo sed**

Tengo que beber algo ...

... porque tengo sed

Pienso / Creo que puedo hacerlo ...

**... yo mismo***I'm hungry**I have to eat something ...**... because I'm hungry**I'm thirsty**I have to drink something ...**... because I'm thirsty**I think I can do it ...**... myself***mismo** means *self* and also *same*; **la misma cosa** is *the same thing*; **lo mismo** is *the same***Quiero lo mismo**

Voy a tomar lo mismo

No es lo mismo

Estoy (muy) sorprendido

**Me sorprende**

No me sorprende

Esto / Eso no me sorprende

*I want the same**I'm going to take / I have the same**It's not the same**I'm (very) surprised**It surprises me**It doesn't surprise me**This / That doesn't surprise me***traer** means *to bring*; **dar** *to give*; **mostrar** *to show*

¿Puede traerme algo?

¿Puede darme algo?

¿Puede mostrarme algo?

**¿Puede mostrármelo?***Can / Will you bring me something?**Can you give me something?**Can you show me something?**Can you show it to me?*Note that the personal **me** (*me*) comes before the object **lo** (*it*) and that they are joined together at the end of the infinitive**¿Puede traérmelo?**

¿Cuándo puede traérmelo ...?

... porque lo necesito y ...

... tengo que tenerlo

*Can you bring it to me?**When can you bring it to me ...?**... because I need it and ...**... I have to have it*





**vivir** is to live

¿Dónde vive / vives / viven?  
¿Usted vive aquí?

Where do you live?  
Do you live here?

**saber** is to know in the sense of knowing a fact or some general knowledge  
**conocer** is to know in the sense of being acquainted with somebody or something

Sabe dónde está

He knows where it is

**Conozco ...**

I know ...

**... la ciudad / el país**

... the city / the country

PERSONAL 'A'

**Conocer a ...** is used for to know a person. Whenever the object of a verb is a person, not a thing, you always insert **a** between the verb and the person

Voy a llamarle

I'm going to call / phone him

Voy a **llamar a** mi amigo

I'm going to call / phone my friend

**querer** means to want and also to love

Lo quiere

He wants it

Él **quiere a** su amiga

He loves his girlfriend

Conozco la ciudad

I know the city

**Conozco a** esta señora

I know this lady

No conozco Madrid

I don't know Madrid

**No conozco a** nadie

I don't know anybody

¿Conoce esta ciudad?

Do you know this city?

¿**Conoce a** esta señora?

Do you know this lady?

¿Sabe dónde está?

Do you know where it is?

Mi amigo viene aquí ...

My friend comes here ...

... todos los días

... every day

**Suele venir** aquí

He usually comes here

Suele hacerlo ...

He usually does it ...

... casi todos los días

... almost every day

**quizás, quizá** means perhaps, maybe

**Quizás no le gusta ...**

Perhaps you don't like ...

Quizá no le gustaría ...

Perhaps you wouldn't like ...

... quedarse aquí

... to stay here ...

... porque hay mucha gente

... because there are many people



**la gente** is *people*; **tanto / tanta** means *so much, so many*

**Hay tanta gente** aquí

Por mi parte ...

... no voy a quedarme aquí ahora

Hay mucho ruido

*There are so many people here*

*For my part ...*

*... I'm not going to stay here now*

*There's a lot of noise*

**hay** is *there is, there are*; **había** *there was, there were*;  
**habrá** *there will be*

**Había** mucha gente aquí ayer

**Habrá** mucha gente

Había demasiado ruido

Habrá mucho ruido

Habrá **mucho más** ruido ...

Habrá **mucho menos** ruido ...

... aquí mañana

Espero tener ...

Espero que voy a tener ...

... la oportunidad / la ocasión ...

... de verlo

**Espero tener la ocasión ...**

... de ver **a** mis amigos

... de visitar **a** mis amigos

*There were many people here  
yesterday*

*There will be many people*

*There was too much noise*

*There will be a lot of noise*

*There will be much more noise ...*

*There will be much less noise ...*

*... here tomorrow*

*I hope to have ...*

*I hope I'll have ...*

*... the opportunity ...*

*... of seeing it*

*I hope to have the opportunity ...*

*... to see my friends*

*... to visit my friends*

Note the use of the personal **a** again

Voy a llamar **a** mi amigo ...

... para saber si puede venir ...

... con nosotros

*I'm going to phone my friend ...*

*... to find out if he can come ...*

*... with us*

**vemos** means *we see*;  
**nos vemos** *we see each other, we meet*

**¿A qué hora nos vemos  
mañana?**

A la misma hora

A las diez

Vamos a vernos / nos veremos ...

*What time shall we meet  
tomorrow?*

*At the same time*

*At ten o'clock*

*We will meet ...*



**Nos vemos ...**  
**... mañana a la misma hora**

Ahora puedo hacerme entender ...  
... en español  
Me parece que es suficiente  
¡Buena suerte!  
Le deseo buena suerte

**Adiós, hasta luego**  
**¡Buen viaje!**

*We'll meet ...*  
*... tomorrow at the same time*

*Now I can make myself understood ...*  
*... in Spanish*  
*I think that's enough*  
*Good luck!*  
*I wish you good luck*  
*Goodbye, until soon / until later*  
*Have a good journey!*

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